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Working Committee Social Dialogue: Forum Liaison June 27, 2007

On June 27, 2007, CoESS participated to another Forum Liaison meeting in Brussels. As stated in Newsflash edition 11, the presentations that were given during this Forum have now been made available online on the European Commission's website: http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/social_dialogue/forum_en.htm.

Working Committee Social Dialogue: EESC/SMO Database on Self- and Co-Regulation

Both CoESS and UNI-Europa have granted authorisation to the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) and the Single Market Observatory (SMO) to officially publish the joint CoESS/UNI-Europa "Code of Conduct and Ethics for the Private Security Sector" on the online EESC/SMO Self- and Co-Regulation Database.

- Source: European Economic and Social Committee communication | July 4, 2007
- For further information, please consult the EESC/SMO website: http://eesc.europa.eu/index_en.asp and http://www.eesc.europa.eu/smo/index_en.asp.

Working Committee Social Dialogue: European Commission Survey on European Social Dialogue

The European Commission has sent out a communication regarding social partners' opinion on the European Social Dialogue and invites social partners to fill out their online survey. The purpose of the survey is to gather feedback from the social partners and other interested stakeholders about their knowledge of Social Dialogue outcomes and their perceptions and expectations towards Social Dialogue at European level. These results will help the European Commission to identify problems and increase the effectiveness of their work. The survey has been published on the European Commission's Social Dialogue website and is available in English, French and German. To participate in the survey, please click on the following link:

<http://ec.europa.eu/yourvoice/ipm/forms/dispatch?form=Socialdialogue>.

- Source: European Commission DG Social Dialogue | July 26, 2007
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Working Committee Maritime Security: SAGMaS meeting July 2, 2007

On July 2, 2007, CoESS attended the SAGMaS (Stakeholder Advisory Group on Maritime Security) meeting in Brussels.

- For further information, please consult the European Commission's website: http://ec.europa.eu/transport/maritime/index_en.htm.
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Working Committee Airport Security: EASA Updates

Following the EASA Board of Directors Meeting of June 12, 2007, six main activities were defined as key focus points for EASA:

- Strategy for Third Party Liability: EASA will focus on the international, European and national perspective and possibly on 'global partnership'.
 - Training and Quality issues: On August 28, 2007, EASA will organise a working group on quality and training. Furthermore, EASA has been active in the meeting of the Implementing Legislation Workgroup regarding Training and has drafted a position paper with remarks thereto. EASA will also continue its work on the EASA Quality Charter with the help of quality experts from the different EASA members.
 - Data collection: On September 3, 2007, EASA will organise a working group on data collection in order to identify basic definitions from which coherent data collection can be initiated.
 - SAGAS: EASA will take a proactive attitude towards the proposal on Recruitment and Training within SAGAS.
 - Improved communication: EASA will strengthen internal and external communication through a logbook, working groups, image building, the website, European Press and conferences and participation in other organisations.
- For further information, please consult the EASA website: <http://www.easa-security.org>.
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Overview upcoming Working Committee Meetings

- Working Committee Maritime Security: August 23 and 24, 2007 in Stockholm, Sweden
 - Working Committee Electronic Surveillance: September 7, 2007 in Wemmel, Belgium
 - Working Committee Enlargement: September 19, 2007 in Bedford Hotel, Brussels, Belgium
 - Working Committee Transport of Valuables: September 13, 2007
 - Working Committee Social Dialogue: September 28, 2007 in Brussels, Belgium
 - Working Committee Airport Security:
 - August 28, 2007 in Wemmel, Belgium (Working Group Quality and Training)
 - September 3, 2007 in Wemmel, Belgium (Working Group Data Collection)
 - October 5, 2007
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Working Committee Vocational Training

During the last CoESS Board of Directors Meeting of July 5, 2007, it was decided to integrate the subject of vocational training into each individual Working Committee and not to maintain the current Working Committee Vocational Training. Moreover, CoESS will organise a large-scale feasibility study in cooperation with the ULB (Université Libre de Bruxelles) relating to vocational training in the sector of private security covering all the European state members as well as other countries where CoESS has members. This study would be conducted for four months from September to December. Afterwards, a follow-up project with the European Social Fund may be organised. The feasibility study is made possible through the large financial contribution by the British Security Industry Association (BSIA), member of CoESS, for which CoESS would like to express its profound gratitude!

Comprehensive study on work-related stress

In the framework of the Social Dialogue activities, UGT (Unión General de Trabajadores), the Spanish trade union, has carried out a comprehensive study with the financing of the Spanish foundation on prevention of labour risks and support from APROSER, the Spanish CoESS member federation, which was focused on stress in the private security industry. This booklet identifies the main reasons leading to stress, prevention of stress and specific measures to be adopted by the prevention delegate and the company's physician. The booklet is available in Spanish.

- Source: UGT (Unión General de Trabajadores) | July 10, 2007
 - To download the booklet, please use the following link:
http://fes.ugt.org/gabinetes/saludlaboral/publica/estres_seg_privada.pdf.
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Eurociett welcomes EU Commission's Communication on Flexicurity

The European Confederation of Private Employment Agencies (Eurociett) welcomes the communication of the European Commission on Flexicurity as it recognises the inherent and positive contribution of temporary work agencies in implementing flexicurity policies.

- Source: Eurociett | June 29, 2007
 - The full press release can be downloaded from the Eurociett website: http://www.eurociett.org/fileadmin/templates/eurociett/docs/press/Eurociett_Press_Release_Commision_Communication_on_Flexicurity_29-06-07.pdf.
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Euro newcomers

EU leaders at their summit (June 21-23, 2007) backed a bid by Cyprus and Malta to adopt the euro in January, bringing the number of countries in the eurozone to 15. The move follows a ruling by the European Commission from May 2007 that both states had met the criteria to join the Eurozone. Final approval by EU finance ministers will come on July 15, 2007.

- Source: European Voice | Issue: June 28-July 4, 2007
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EIT on track

EU ministers for competitiveness agreed on June 25, 2007 a 'general approach' to the creation of a European Institute of Technology (EIT), aimed at bringing together academics and business through specialist 'knowledge and innovation Communities'. If approved by the European Parliament later this year, the EIT could start work in 2008, but funds for running the EIT have not yet been raised, apart from a € 308.7 million contribution from the EU budget.

- Source: European Voice | Issue: June 28-July 4, 2007
 - For further reading, please consult the European Commission's Educational website:
http://ec.europa.eu/education/policies/educ/eit/index_en.html.
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EU plans tougher air security checks



Millions of air passengers could be tracked across Europe under security proposals unveiled in Brussels, reports the Guardian. Passport numbers and credit card details of people flying into EU states would be stored on individual government databases. Databases containing information on people travelling between EU states is also under consideration, meaning French authorities could demand details of inbound British passengers, it says. Unveiling the plans on Tuesday, July 3, 2007 EU justice commissioner Franco Frattini said the EU needed to find a "better way to discourage and to detect terrorists". He also wants to criminalise the online publication of material about how to cause explosions.

- Source: The Guardian website | July 4, 2007
 - For further information, please consult the European Commission's website:
http://ec.europa.eu/commission_barroso/frattini/doc/2007/sec_2007_897_en.pdf.
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Employment Regulation Order

The Irish Security Industry Association (ISIA) reports that the National Minimum Wage is € 8.65 per hour with effect from 1 July 2007 for an experienced adult worker. The lowest rate in the Security Employment Regulation Order is € 8.62 and should now be adjusted to € 8.65 to comply.

- Source: SecurEview | July 4, 2007
 - The Security Employment Regulation Order can be downloaded from the ISIA website: http://www.isia.ie/isia/Files/JLC_ERO_010107.pdf.
 - For further reading, please consult the Irish Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment's website: <http://www.entemp.ie/employment/rights/minimumwage.htm>.
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EU flooded with maritime policy ideas

The European Commission has been “inundated” with submissions for its green paper on maritime policy. Nearly 450 different organisations have sent in responses to the Commission’s initiative for a radical shake-up in the continent’s future sea policy.

- Source: The Parliament website | July 4, 2007
 - For further reading and to consult the European Commission’s green paper on maritime policy, please consult the European Commission’s Maritime Affairs website: http://ec.europa.eu/maritimeaffairs/policy_en.html#com.
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Impact of VAT on EU commission agenda

Laszlo Kovacs, the commissioner for taxation, will today present a communication on the impact of VAT reduced rates and its possible consequences at EU level. The aim is to launch a political debate on the use of VAT reduced rates and on the possible rationalisation of current EU laws.

- Source: <http://www.EUpolitix.com> | July 5, 2007
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Cyprus and Malta euro membership to be approved

EU finance ministers are expected to approve today the commission’s proposal for Cyprus and Malta to adopt the euro on January 1, 2008. They will also set the rate at which the Cypriot pound and the Maltese lira will be converted into the euro.

- Source: <http://www.EurActiv.com> | July 10, 2007
 - For further information, please consult the EurActiv website: <http://www.euractiv.com/en/euro/eu-leaders-welcome-malta-cyprus-eurozone/article-164866?Ref=RSS>.
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SECULive Magazine - second edition



SECULive is proud to present the second edition of its French magazine “SECULive”. This 100-page edition can be acquired through the online SECULive shop: www.seculive.fr.

- Source: SECULive | July 10, 2007
 - For further information, or to acquire the latest edition of ‘SECULive’, please consult the SECULive website: http://www.seculivelaboutique.fr/product_info.php?cPath=21&products_id=29.
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New ERC website online

The Employers’ Resource Center (ERC) has launched its new website. The ERC has been created as a service to respond to the needs of employer federations. It provides information on the European Social Dialogue, on joint projects being undertaken by European Social Partners and on financial opportunities for their members that exist.

- Source: Employers’ Resource Center (ERC) | July 16, 2007
 - For further information, please consult the ERC website: <http://www.erc-online.eu/Content/Default.asp>.
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16th SICUR Exhibition in Spain

IFEMA (Institución Ferial de Madrid) organises its 16th SICUR Exhibition (International Security, Safety and Fire Exhibition) from 26 to 29 February 2008 at the Feria in Madrid. SICUR 2008 will cover the following topics: Sicur Prolabor, Safety and Hygiene at Work; Fire Prevention, Detection and Extinction; Security against Malicious Acts; Security in Information Systems. SICUR is recognised as Spain’s number one event and one of the top in the international trade fair ranking.

- Source: IFEMA | July 10, 2007

- For further information, please consult the IFEMA website: http://www.sicur.ifema.es/ferias/sicur/default_i.html.
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EU Commission outlines plans to close gender pay gap



The European Commission has unveiled an ambitious four-point plan of action aimed at closing the gender pay gap.

- Source: DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities | July 19, 2007
 - For further information, please consult the European Commission's website: http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/gender_equality/gender_mainstreaming/equalpay/equal_pay_en.html.
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EU governments to start discussing details of reform

The EU's governments will kick off discussions on Monday, July 23, 2007 on the details of the EU reform treaty. The paper notes that experts will start negotiating over the details of the upcoming reform, with a view to laying the groundwork for a text to be discussed by foreign ministers in Lisbon in September. The reform treaty would then be agreed by the EU's heads of state on October 18-19, 2007 in Lisbon.

- Source: <http://www.EurActiv.com> | July 18, 2007
 - For further information, please consult the EurActiv website: <http://www.euractiv.com/en/future-eu/eu-reform-treaty/article-163412>.
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Portugal organises maritime policy conference

On July 19, 2007, a two-day conference on the governance of an integrated maritime policy for Europe was organised in Lisbon by the EU Portuguese presidency. The event will look at areas including cross-sectoral policy making and self-governance in the area of maritime policy. Maritime policy is one of the European Commission's new priorities. EU Fisheries Commissioner, Joe Borg, is currently developing a new approach to combine for the first time policy areas like shipping, tourism, fisheries, port policies and maritime environment.

- Source: European Commission | July 19, 2007
 - For further information, please consult the European Commission's website: http://ec.europa.eu/maritimeaffairs/speeches/speech200707_en.html.
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CoESS General Assembly

Dear Members, please keep in mind that the next CoESS General Assembly will be organised on **September 20, 2007**. The official invitations have now been sent out! The agenda and the relevant working documents will be provided to you shortly.

May we kindly ask you to block this date in your respective calendars? Many thanks in advance!

Kindest regards,

The CoESS General Secretariat

For further information on these topics, please contact the General Secretariat:

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For general information on CoESS, please consult the CoESS website: <http://www.coess.eu>.